GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3966
ANSWERED ON:09.04.2003
CELLULAR SERVICE BY MTNL AND BSNL
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MTNL and the BSNL have been providing cellular service in the country;

(b) if so, the revenue earned by the MTNL and the BSNL therefrom as on date;

(c) whether people are showing less interest on Government owned MTNL and BSNL cellulatelephones as compared to cellular telephones being provided by private players;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to make its cellular service more people friendly?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMI MAHAJAN)

(a) MTNL is providing the Cellular Mobile Telephone Services in the MetroCities of Delhi including National Capital Region towns of NOIDA, Ghaziabad, Faridabad and Gurgaon and Mumbai and its adjoining areas of Navi Mumbai and Kalyan only. At other places, Cellular service is provided by BSNL.

(b) The total revenue earned upto February, 2003, by the MTNL and BSNL is Rs. 236.389 crores and Rs.127 crores respectively.

(c) & (d): No, Sir. There is good response to cellular services provided by MTNL and BSNL.

(e) Steps taken or being taken to make cellular service more people friendly are:

i) Cellular Mobile service has become within the reach of common man due to affordable tariff plan.
ii) Customer service centres are easily accessible and Call centres have been opened to take care of customer problems.
iii) Additional Base units have been provided to improve coverage.